

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 426

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; TO PROVIDE A PURPOSE; AMENDING CHAPTER 16, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-1628, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH THE "8 IN 6 PROGRAM," TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PAYING FOR CERTAIN OVERLOAD COURSES AND SUMMER COURSES, TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA RELATING TO PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO ELIGIBLE COURSES, TO PROVIDE FOR RULES AND TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONS.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE OF ACT. The purpose of this program is to identify those students who are taking courses in grades 7 through 12 at an accelerated rate and provide them with an incentive to graduate from high school with one or two years of college credit or with a professional-technical degree or certification. The program will provide funding so that a portion of the overload courses and summer courses taken by such students will be paid for by the State Department of Education.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 16, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 33-1628, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

33-1628. "8 IN 6 PROGRAM." (1) A program is hereby established in the state department of education to be known as the "8 in 6 Program."

(2) If a parent and student agree, by signing the appropriate form provided by the state department of education, to the conditions provided for in paragraphs (2) (a) and (b) of this section, the state department of education will pay for a percentage of the cost of overload courses and summer courses as provided for in this section.

(a) The student and parent agree that the student shall take and successfully complete a full course load during the school year.

(b) The student and parent agree that the student shall take and successfully complete at least one (1) summer course and at least fourteen (14) courses per school year.

(c) The state shall pay two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$225) per overload or summer course taken in this program.

(d) The state shall pay for no more than two (2) overload courses per student per school year. The state shall pay for no more than two (2) courses per student per summer school session. The state shall pay for no more than a combined total of four (4) overload and summer school courses per student per year. The state shall pay for no more than a combined total of eight (8) overload and summer school courses per student during such student's participation in the program.

1 (e) Preference will be given to students who have successfully com-
2 pleted at least one (1) online course prior to enrolling in an overload
3 or summer course.

4 (f) If a student participating in the program fails to complete with a
5 grade of "C" or better one (1) or more overload or summer courses while
6 in the program, the student must pay for and successfully complete an
7 overload or summer course with a grade of "C" or better before continu-
8 ing in the program.

9 (3) Participation in this program shall be limited to no more than ten
10 percent (10%) of students in each grade 7 through 12.

11 (4) Procedures for participating in the "8 in 6 Program" include the
12 following: The school district shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that
13 any student who considers participating in the program has the aptitude and
14 capabilities to succeed in the program. Such efforts by the district shall
15 be performed prior to a student participating in the program.

16 (5) Eligible courses. To qualify as an eligible course for the program,
17 the course must be offered by a provider accredited by the organization
18 that accredits Idaho high schools or an organization whose accreditation
19 of providers is recognized by the organization that accredits Idaho high
20 schools.

21 (6) The state board of education is hereby authorized to promulgate
22 rules to implement the provisions of this section.

23 (7) Definitions:

24 (a) "8 in 6 Program" means the two (2) years of junior high, the four
25 (4) years of high school and the first two (2) years of college that nor-
26 mally take eight (8) years to complete are compressed into six (6) years
27 by taking full course loads during the school year and one (1) or two
28 (2) courses during the summer. The program also includes professional-
29 technical degrees and certificates.

30 (b) "Full course load" means no fewer than twelve (12) courses per
31 school year.

32 (c) "Overload course" means a course taken that is in excess of or more
33 than the number of courses taken in the normal school day as a normal
34 school day is defined by the district.

35 (d) "Parent" means parent or parents or guardian or guardians.

36 (e) "School year" means the normal school year that begins upon the con-
37 clusion of the break between grades and ends upon the beginning of the
38 same break of the following year.